

Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs

For Immediate Release January 18, 2008

Lisa Aug (502) 564-9203 <u>Lisa.Aug@ky.gov</u> <u>veterans.ky.gov</u>

300th Interment at State Veterans Cemetery in Radcliff

Milestone Reached Seven Months After Opening

(RADCLIFF, January 18, 2008) Today, Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Central performed its 300th interment since opening in June 2007.

"We are deeply honored that these veterans and their families have chosen a Kentucky state veterans cemetery for their final resting place," said Les Beavers, Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs (KDVA.) "All of us at KDVA are proud that we are able to provide our veterans with a sacred place of honor and dignity."

The 300th interment is Staff Sergeant (Ret.) John Edward Steptoe of Louisville. He joins 264 veterans and 37 dependents at the cemetery.

Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Central (KVCC) mainly serves veterans from a 75-mile radius of the cemetery, including parts of Kentucky, Ohio and Indiana. KVCC also serves as the Active Duty cemetery for soldiers and their dependents serving at nearby Fort Knox.

Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Central is Kentucky's second state veterans cemetery.

Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West opened in Hopkinsville in March 2004. Kentucky Veterans

Cemetery North, in Williamstown, is under construction and scheduled to open in late summer of 2008.

For more information about interment at Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Central, including eligibility and services, call the cemetery at 270-351-5115 or 270-351-5119.

Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Central is located on 99 acres at 2501 N. Dixie Highway in Radcliff, adjacent to Fort Knox. Construction included a 3,600-square-foot administration building, a 4,400-square-foot maintenance building with service area, a committal facility and a columbarium. It also has appropriate parking, road network, walking path and landscaping commensurate with the dignity and honor of a state veterans cemetery.

Construction and initial equipment for KVCC cost approximately \$8.95 million. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs will reimburse the state for construction, and the state will pay the operating costs.